

# Executive Proclamation

## State of South Dakota

### Office of the Governor

*Whereas*, The South Department of Labor is very proud of Tom Leonhardt's service in Iraq as part of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion 147<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery Unit of the United States Army and for his dedication to the Department of Labor as demonstrated by his quick return to work after returning stateside; and,

*Whereas*, Labor Market Information Center (LMIC) staff believe it is their right and obligation to let him know the lack of his presence was felt in unique ways while he served our country for more than a year. There were shorter staff meetings, much more room in the break room refrigerator, and the staff was not kept abreast of trends in the agriculture production industry that Tom used to haul from the back of his pick-up or from something on his shoes; and,

*Whereas*, Tom maintained his electronic research skills and his connection to ranching while in Iraq, being the only U.S. soldier we know of who checked the Internet daily for the expected progeny differences (EPDs) of bulls, and now LMIC will likely have global connections with Tom the Link King providing links to the computer he used in Iraq; and,

*Whereas*, Tom has, no doubt, greatly missed preparing project timelines and work plans and will now certainly schedule his calving activities so they won't coincide with the *Year in Review* article for the *Labor Bulletin* and other work activities; and,

*Whereas*, Tom is now physically well conditioned from his tour of duty and may again be challenging his younger co-workers to sports contests without resulting in injury, to him at least, and return as a leader once again to a favorite break time activity of dumpster diving; and,

*Whereas*, Tom's desk awaited him with piles and piles of papers, 3-ring binders and printouts, and his co-workers are grateful to have him safely home:

*Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds*, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim February 24, 2005, as

*TOM LEONHARDT DAY*

in South Dakota.



*In Witness Whereof*, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Twenty-second Day of February in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Five.

  
M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:

  
Chris Nelson, Secretary of State